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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Bjork *et al.*

Examiner: P. Beskar

Serial No.: 09/847539

Group Art Unit: 1645

Filed: May 5, 2001

For renamed: "Streptococcal $\alpha_2 M$ Binding Protein"

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June 18, 2003

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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RESPONSE TO NON-FINAL OFFICE ACTION

Sir:

This submission is made in response to a Non-Final Office Action dated December 18, 2002. In the Office Action, the Examiner set a three-month time period in which to respond. Accompanying this response is a petition for a three-month extension of time and the requisite fee for the petition. Thus, this response is timely filed.

Certificate of Mailing Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited on the date shown below with the United States Postal Service as first class mail with sufficient postage in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

K Padilla
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6/18/03
(Date)